

Atty. Docket No.: 101.0050-00000 Express Mail Label No. EL399233695US

UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

Gary K. Michelson, M.D.

Serial No: 08/484,928

Filed: June 7, 1995

For: FRUSTO-CONICAL INTERBODY

SPINAL FUSION IMPLANT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

Art Unit: 3764

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Examiner: Brown, M.

REPLY TO OFFICE ACTION UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.111

This communication is responsive to the Office Action dated October 1, 1999, Paper No.

15.

Please amend the Application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel claim 84 and amend the claims as follows:

1. (three times amended) An interbody spinal fusion implant for insertion across a disc space between adjacent [vertebrae] vertebral bodies of a human/spine, the implant comprising a body

having an insertion end, a trailing end, a length between said ends, and an outer surface including bone engaging means for engaging said implant to adjacent [vertebrae] vertebral bodies of the

configuration along at least a portion of said bone engaging means [oriented toward] that is

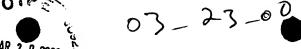
spine, the outer locus of said bone engaging mean's forming a substantially frusto-conical

adapted to contact the adjacent [vertebrae] vertebral bodies when implanted in the spine, said

substantially frusto-conical configuration being along at least a portion of the length of said

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FORM PTO-1083



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FRUSTO-CONICAL INTERBODY

SPINAL FUSION IMPLANT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents

Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

Transmitted herewith is an amendment in the above-identified application.

Small entity status of this application under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.9 & 1.27 has been established by a verified ~ statement previously submitted.

A verified statement to establish small entity status under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.9 & 1.27 is enclosed.

Change of correspondence address.

No additional fee is required.

The fee has been calculated as shown below:

	(Col. 1) CLAIMS REMAINING AFTER AMENDMENT		(Col. 2) HIGHEST NUMBER PREVIOUSLY PAID FOR		(Col. 3) PRESENT EXTRA*	LG/SM \$ ENTITY FEE		ADD'L FEE DUE	
TOTAL CLAIMS FEE	171	-	167	**	4	LG=\$18 SM=\$9	\$18	\$	72
INDEPENDENT CLAIMS FEE	9	-	8	***	1	LG=\$78 SM=\$39	\$78	\$	78
FIRST PRESENTATION OF MULTIPLE DEPENDENT CLAIMS LARGE ENTITY FEE = \$260 SMALL ENTITY FEE = \$130								\$	0
	-				_	•	TOTAL	\$	150

If the entry in Col. 1 is less than the entry in Col. 2, write "0" in Col. 3.

- \boxtimes A check in the amount of \$_1,020.00 to cover the additional claims fee and three month extension of time fee is enclosed. A copy of this sheet is enclosed.
- \boxtimes The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any deficiencies of fees associated with this communication or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-1066. A copy of this sheet is enclosed.

Any filing fees under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 for the presentation of extra claims

 \boxtimes Any patent application processing fees under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17

Respectfully, submitted

MARTÍN & FERRARO/LLP

Date: March 70, 2000

Amedeo 5. Ferraro

Registration No. 37,129 Attorney for Applicant(s)

14500 Avion Parkway, Suite 300

Chantilly, VA 20151-1101 Telephone: 703-679-9300 Facsimile: 703-679-9303

Transmittal for ROA

If the entry in Col. 1 is less than the entry in Col. 2, write 0 in Col. 3.

If the "Highest Number Previously Paid For" IN THIS SPACE is less than 20, write "20" in this space.

If the "Highest Number Previously Paid For" IN THIS SPACE is less than 3, write "3" in this space. The "Highest Number Previously Paid For" (Total or Independent) is the highest number found from the equivalent box on Col. 1 of a prior amendment or the number of claims originally filed.